

Local Items

All About Our Town And Its People

The Misses Agnes Doyle and Marie Byrnes went to Grand Rapids Friday for the day.

Mrs. Chas. Johnson went to Smyrna Friday for the day.

Chas. Reese left Friday for Syracuse, N. Y., where he will be in limited service.

Mrs. F. D. Harrison went to Detroit Friday to visit her daughter for two weeks.

Miss Edna Conklin returned to her home at Detroit Friday after visiting her mother, Mrs. Martha Skelcher for some time. While here Miss Conklin and her mother spent a week at Hastings. Miss Conklin at one time was an employee of the Banner office.

Mrs. Mary Martin went to Greenville Friday to visit her son a few days.

Mrs. O. Bowen of Saranac, who has been visiting Mrs. Pierce Jenkins, went to Edmore Friday to visit her daughter.

Mrs. Lela Rhodes and Miss Carrie Wirebaugh went to Greenville Friday afternoon.

Mrs. G. F. Smith went to Romeo Friday for a few days' visit with relatives.

Mrs. Rufus Morse went to Grand Rapids Friday to visit her brother and family over Sunday.

Mrs. Julia Wooden of Rockford, Ill., went to Grand Rapids Friday. She has been visiting at the home of Mrs. Wess Porter and other friends.

Mrs. Geo. Westcott went to Grand Rapids Friday where she will work.

Miss Lettie Nummer went to Ionia Friday to visit relatives a few days.

Virginia Keiner returned to Lansing after visiting a few days at the home of her aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Merton Smith.

Mrs. A. E. Piper went to Ionia on Friday to visit relatives for the week end.

Mrs. Catherine Bush returned to her home at Haynor Friday after a short visit at the home of Mrs. May Beckwith.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred M. Baxter and daughter, Helen, were Sunday guests of their uncle, Fred H. Baxter, at Long Lake.

Miss Helen Baxter of Ronald returned home Saturday after spending the week with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Minier of 424 Pearl street.

Miss Ethel Wooden of Rockford, Ill., who has been visiting Mrs. Wess Porter and other friends went to Grand Rapids Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Rogers went to Grand Rapids Saturday.

Miss Dorothea Miller of Chicago, who is spending the summer with Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Post, went to Grand Rapids Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Lasky went to Ionia Saturday to visit relatives over Sunday.

The Misses Neva Coon and Nellie Gratkowski went to Detroit Saturday to visit relatives and friends.

Miss Coon intends to go on to Erie for a week.

Miss Byrd Mason and Miss Eulia Richmond went to Ionia Saturday to visit relatives for the day.

Mrs. E. Manch went to Grand Rapids Saturday to visit relatives a few days.

Mrs. F. C. Race and children returned to Kalamazoo Saturday after a few days' visit at the home of Ernie Grinnell.

Mrs. Jennie Holland returned with them for a few days' visit.

John Zuwerink went to Grand Rapids Saturday to visit relatives over Sunday.

Mrs. Louis Stone and baby returned to their home at Plainfield Saturday after visiting at the home of Mr. Ed. Stice and baby, Earl, and Mrs. W. Trowbridge went to Grand Rapids Saturday where they will make their home.

Miss Bertha Barnes went to Grand Rapids Saturday to visit her sister over Sunday.

Mrs. G. W. Walker and daughter Marion returned to Detroit Saturday after a few days' visit at the home of Mrs. Mary Barnes.

Miss Lella Greenop went to Ionia Saturday for the day.

Miss Reva Bolster went to Chadwick Saturday and later she will go to Ionia to visit relatives and friends a month.

Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Howe and children went to Lansing Saturday to visit relatives a week.

Mrs. Albert Crosby and baby returned to their home at Ionia Saturday after a few days' visit at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Moore.

Any hair or scalp trouble you may have will quickly vanish after a few days' use of Parisian Sage. Wortley & French sell it on guarantee of money back if not satisfied.—adv.

Long Lake Bus.

I will run a bus to Long Lake, Heth's pavilion Saturday evenings, taking passengers for the dance. Bus will leave from P. M. depot at 8:00 o'clock p. m.

Bert Riker.

Spend Less
Enjoy Yourself More
Take Your
Vacation
at the
**Redpath
Chautauqua**
The 100% Program

Chautauqua Here
Aug. 13 to 20

LONG LAKE

The East Otisco Farmers' club held a picnic last Thursday at Hall's landing; also the Baptist Sunday school of Belding held one at the same place on Friday.

Mrs. E. B. Hale who has been visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Hall went to Grand Rapids last week and returned Thursday to spend the remainder of her vacation.

Mr. and Mrs. John Lott of Elmdale were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Hall for over Sunday.

Mrs. H. Wagar and Mrs. Ross of Ionia were visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Dodson Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. John Stedman and children, Geo. Stedman and wife of Traverse City, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Stedman and children, Elliott Millard and little Merline and Mrs. Rena Graham spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Jim Stedman.

Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Webber and daughter, Helen of Detroit are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Webber.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Way and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Heth spent Monday evening in Belding.

Mrs. Clark Welker and children, Dr. Geneva Green and daughter, Lenna, are spending a week in the Burger cottage.

Bernice and Thelma Ransom of Ionia visited their cousins, Marie and Ruth Dodson several days last week.

L. H. Neiman of Denver, Colo., a brother-in-law of Henry Bowserox, is spending a week with him at Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Dodson's.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Munger and son, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Venev, Mr. and Mrs. Perry Giegler, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Marsh and Miss Waneta Adams of St. Johns spent several days in the Kuminogin cottage.

Eleanor Heth spent several days in Ionia last week with Dorothy Ashe, Dorothy returning with her to visit at the lake a few days.

L. C. Worden spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Miles Merriett.

Mr. and Mrs. John Haberstump are spending a week in their cottage.

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Pierce and children who have spent a month in the Burger cottage returned to Ionia Saturday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Archie Anderson spent several days in Ionia last week, returning to the lake Saturday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Rensner and daughter are spending several days in the Harwood cottage.

Mrs. Valentine Loewer and Miss Anna Malloy of Columbus, O., who spent two weeks in the Longwell cottage, "Shady Oak" returned home on Tuesday.

Zora Snow, Louise Stowell, Madeline Randall, Marietta Higbee, Esther Harrington and Mildred Vohlers, chaperoned by Mrs. Esterbrook who spent last week in Lone Pine cottage, returned home Sunday night.

Leslie James and Archie Anderson are having great luck catching pike, several nice ones being sent into Ionia last week, one weighing about seven pounds.

The state netting crew spent a couple of days at Pine Island lake last week and took out 60 bill fish and now have their nets set in Wabisis lake.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Stevenson and Rich spent a week at the lake and went to the city Sunday night.

There was a very large attendance at the dance Saturday night, there being about 87 couples and 100 spectators.

Mr. and Mrs. Claude Faude and children spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Faude.

Mr. and Mrs. Keefe of Grand Rapids are settled in their cottage on the Branch side for the remainder of the season.

Fank Heth was in Grand Rapids a couple of days last week.

Fred Miller fell from the scaffold in his barn a few days ago and when found by his wife was unconscious. He is all right again except a few bruises.

Mrs. Canfield's calf became entangled in some poison sumac; while she was getting it loose she became badly poisoned about her face and hands which are much swollen and very painful.

Mrs. Ott of Lansing who has been visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. Schultz and Fred Schultz and L. J. Whitford, returned home Sunday.

Who Is Henry Cook?

A great many people have asked this question of a great many other people. They had heard that Henry Cook was in the race for sheriff and they wanted to know a little more about him. A number of persons asked the editor about Henry Cook and while we had a speaking acquaintance with the man who will be beyond a doubt the next sheriff of this county, we did not know him. For our own and our readers' and our inquirers' information we decided to write down to Warden Otis Fuller, of the Michigan reformatory, where Mr. Cook has been and is now employed. In the letter we wrote, we asked the warden to tell us about the character of the man running on the Democratic ticket for sheriff.

The following is the letter which we received and it tells its own story: "Ionia, Mich., July 18, 1918.

"Ed. D. Engemann, Belding, Mich.

"Dear Sir: I have your favor of July 17 inquiring about the character, habits and general standing of Henry J. Cook, and about the length of his employment in Michigan reformatory.

In reply thereto, I take pleasure in informing you that I found Mr. Cook on the official staff of this institution when I came here more than 25 years ago, and I believe he had at that time been here about three years.

Mr. Parcell, my predecessor, recommended him to me as one of his best officers, and during the last quarter of a century I have found him to be a man of the highest character, exemplary habits, high intelligence and of first class standing in every respect in the community.

He has been assistant hallmaster for several years, one of the most responsible positions in the institution, and he has been one of my most able and satisfactory officers.

"Very truly yours,

"Otis Fuller, Warden."

A year ago a Wisconsin farmer was milking 11 cows and getting a monthly cream check of \$35. He joined a cow testing association, followed its recommendations, and increased his check to \$95 a month.

Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Kidd went to Ann Arbor Saturday to visit their son, Ray Kidd, who is in training at U. of M.

ORLEANS METHODIST CHURCH

R. V. Birdsall, Pastor.

The union outdoor service at the home of John Rasmussen, near Easton church site, was a decided success despite the threatening weather. Dr. Phelps preached a masterful sermon. It was decided to send for Dr. Diehl, rural church expert, to look over the ground and help in decision and plans for the new building.

The pastor and family with A. H. Barden and wife attended church at Orange Sunday evening.

Regular services on this charge next Sunday.

Five more Sundays before conference, which convenes in Jackson Sept. 11.

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Ada Picnic August 15.

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Basket picnic at noon.

Senator William Alden Smith will be the orator of the day and there will be plenty of music and other speakers.

Sports of all kinds to make an enjoyable day for young and old.

You are cordially invited to meet with us and enjoy the day with your old friends.

T. H. McNaughton, President. William Farrell, Secretary.

A HISTORY OF THE WASHINGTON CLUB.

(By Mrs. M. A. Berridge and Mrs. Emma L. Macomber.)

(From the Greenville Daily Call of Saturday, Aug. 3, 1918.)

Among the forces which make life worth living, we should surely reckon that instinct, so strong in the human family, which impels it to seek enjoyment in meeting in groups for social pleasure.

As we read the story of the early settlers on American frontiers, we are often amazed at the amount of joy they obtained from simple pleasures. Sometimes we turn to this simplicity of life with a feeling that it were better if we had less of the complex in our social life.

It was this social impulse which led John and Eliza Ashley of Grattan, 52 years ago on Feb. 22, 1866, to invite to their pleasant farm home a group of friends, that they might together celebrate the birthday of George Washington.

Sturdy men and women these were. They had braved life, laughing at its difficulties. When they shook hands the very strength of the touch proved

the'r uprightness and their loyal friendship for each other.

Mrs. Ashley was a famous cook—an artist in domestic art and those of us who know what we know, can imagine the dinner and the diners.

We think they played "whist" after dinner, that good old game. The hours sped so quickly that it grew late before the last "rubber" was played.

Then Eliza was ready again and insisted that nobody could ride home in the cold without a bite more to eat. The "bite" proved to be another demonstration of the artist's art.

And so the charm caught this group—you may read their names in that splendid record book—and they decided to make this meeting an annual event.

Ten couples met for ten years, each year at the home of a different couple—at least until the very last couple, Mr. and Mrs. Adams being just then about to change residence, received their friends at the Grattan House of Grattan Center.

At this meeting it was decided to accept other members until there were 20 couples and to hold meetings in some public place where accommodations for larger numbers might be obtained.

It was during these early years that the principles which govern the club were evolved. As we consider those principles, we realize that this group of sturdy people, who emigrated from the east, as the record has it, "when the wolf prowled and howled around their homes in the night-time and the Redman chased the deer on the unbroken wild," were of that good old New England stock which stands today back of everything we dub American. One of the rules was that no intoxicating liquors should be used at the banquets.

This is somewhat remarkable for in those days custom declared that intoxicants were necessary for true hospitality. Today we honor that idea of abstinence but greater knowledge is ours; the trend of public thought justifies us in standing by the principle. Meantime let us not forget to honor the men and women who took this stand in such different times.

Though this club is supposed to be merely social, one would scarcely get the right impression of it, if we did not speak of the fact that into every meeting there crept some demonstration of the underlying current of American ideals. To hold fast to true democratic principles seemed instinctive with all. The nation was very dear to the hearts of men and women after those years of civil strife.

"What is right?" was the question uppermost in their minds, and there is no question but that this social club where politics were not discussed affected many deeds of the children of men outside its membership.

In religious matters as in other matters, these club people knew no creed except "the right."

One can scarcely fail to see in all this the underlying cause of the fact expressed by Secretary Merritt: "It is a matter of congratulation that this

club, founded so many years ago, stands today second to no social club in our state."

You and I know that in social clubs with no such underlying principles, rise and fall; but the Washington club goes on to greater and greater interest.

A constitution and by-laws was adopted in 1881 and revised in 1899.

It is probably true that a great number of people of the club are unaware that the club possesses a rare book in the shape of a Record book. For many years, one man, C. C. Merritt, was secretary of this club. He was something more than a mere secretary; he might easily have been a literary light, for his talent is evident in the records he makes of these social gatherings so dear to his heart.

The writer of this sketch felt that a great part of the record should be in the hands of each member, but such an undertaking would involve a transcription of a large amount of matter.

In this record are to be found, not only the ordinary details of events, but many other records: Here are the tributes to the noble members who have preceded us into the far country. Each memorial record is a brief history of the loved one, written by some tender friend who fits into it his love for his friend. These tributes alone should be invaluable to the children and grandchildren who are members of the club today.

Then there are some of the poems which amateur poets have dared to read before the club—a toast here—a speech there. These have kept the picture for those of us who stay yet a little longer; and it would seem that such a custom should be continued for those who will value them in the future.

Upon the 30th anniversary of the club, the secretary writes: "The pleasure, privilege and honor I enjoy today is one that comes only to a few. Even in this grand country, where fraternity blesses, and love brightens the homes and hearts of so many of its people, occasions like this are rare—rare even in a country where social functions hold a prominent and important place among a free and enlightened people. It is a small matter to relate the history of 30 years, but it is a wonderful achievement to make the history itself. This club has a wonderful history. Some of you were present at the beginning; you adorned the title page and wrote the preface. You will find page after page illustrated by the old painter, Remembrance—pictures that are masterpieces will greet you at every page you turn, and smile down upon you from the days that are gone."

It became the custom of the club to hold, besides its winter meeting, a summer picnic. The first was in 1885. Mr. Merritt writes a humorous account of one picnic held at the reformatory grounds at Ionia. The versatile secretary's account of the regular writing of 1887 is worth quoting from:

"The spring brought its flowers, the summer its picnic, the autumn its fruits, the winter the glorious meetings of the club. The goat has recovered and is ready for new business. We look with pleasure upon our pleasant, comfortable Holmes, and the sturdy ever-green, the latter losing none of its brightness because capped with Snow; the beautiful Hills, the lovely

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THE BELDING BANNER-NEWS

R. V. Birdsall, Pastor.

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